

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

[0033] A method and apparatus for providing access protection in a digital television distribution system having a master headend and at least one local headend is described. In one example, first authorization data associated with content services for distribution is defined. The content services are protected at the master headend. The first authorization data is protected at the master headend. Digital transport stream data is then generated from the protected content services and the protected authorization data for transmission to each of the local headends.